

**A Register of
1873 No Arrows Open 3
WB-6 and WB-7**



Liberty Seated Half Dollars

by
Bill Bugert

With a Foreword by
Leonard Augsburger

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Foreword

by Leonard Augsburger

The breadth of United States coinage issued in 1873 has long been recognized by numismatists. Indeed, the first edition of the *Guide Book of United States Coins*, in 1946, listed 40 issues for this single year. In the late 1950s, Harry X Boosel (the middle name famously lacked punctuation) began researching the coinage of this year, and the sale of his 1873 collections (September 1968, by Lester Merkin, and April 1972, by RARCOA) drew further attention to the subject. Today, the *Guide Book* notes 58 different U.S. coins for the year, representing various combinations of mint marks, arrows, and open and closed 3s.

Boosel's work was groundbreaking for the time, an era when few ventured into the National Archives, beyond Walter Breen, Bob Julian, and Eric Newman. Boosel described his research process: "Most research on varieties of coins is done by actually studying the coins themselves and noting and recording the differences. Most of the varieties of 1873 coins that I have discovered have been by documentary research, study of records, and then logical deductions that the varieties should exist. AND THEN I SET OUT TO FIND THE VARIETIES!" And find them he did. Boosel's research, mostly published in the *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, quoted liberally from U.S. Mint material in the National Archives and remains relevant today.

While Boosel set the stage, Bill Bugert and Randy Wiley sought to document not just major varieties, but rather *all* die marriages within the Liberty Seated half dollar series. Bill Bugert's publications, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollars*, now at six volumes and counting, has nearly succeeded in doing so, with the end now in sight after many years. The work *in toto* documents over a thousand die marriages and provides the high-quality images necessary for collectors to attribute coins often distinguished by only the most subtle details. As if that were not enough, Bill has taken on individual issues, such as the 1878-S half dollar and 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date half dollar and documented all known examples.

In this volume, Bugert investigates the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 variety, which is the scarcest half dollar for the year, and enumerates all known surviving pieces. The explosion of the availability of numismatic sales data in recent years greatly facilitates such studies, but the real strength of Bill Bugert's work is the network he has developed among the Liberty Seated half dollar collecting fraternity. Bill's "eyes and ears" on the bourse floor are legion, and the appearance of an important coin quickly activates Bill's band of reporters. In recent years, such reports are inevitably accompanied by high-quality mobile phone images, which further propel the research. In short, there is extensive data in this book that is represented in no auction sale catalog or any other published source.

Equally dogged researchers will inevitably uncover further die varieties or unknown examples of rare issues, but their work will be measured against the foundation here established. It is one thing to find an unlisted coin, but quite another to create the reference by which future discoveries are confirmed. Of course, that is no excuse not to try! As Bill Bugert has built upon the work of Harry X Boosel and others, so others must now take up the torch and move the science of numismatics ahead. We look forward to seeing where they go.

Leonard Augsburger
March 5, 2026

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Introduction

The 1873 No Arrows Open 3 WB-6 and WB-7 half dollars¹ (the two die marriages collectively known as the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar) are a very popular half dollar collector's variety. Long recognized as a rarity, now it is more accurately rated as a very scarce R-4+ but it is still a key die variety in prominent half dollar collector sets. The Open 3 trait came to be when the 1873 Closed 3² coins of many denominations were minted and circulated in early 1873. The public and Mint officials criticized the 3 in the date as it appeared to be an 8 especially on smaller, lower denomination coins such as the three-cent piece. To solve this, the Director of the Mint ordered a change in the style of the 3 from Closed to Open 3. See page 12 and Appendix A for additional information.

The first reference that I can find which mentions this Open 3 characteristic is in Martin Luther Beistle's 1929 half dollar book³. Although he does not call it an "Open 3," his descriptions of the 4A variety mentions "... new type of 3, very small knobs and set far apart" clearly suggesting the Open 3. (See partial scan below from his book, page 175)

1873 4 A. Low date with new type of 3, very small knobs and set far apart. There are two round lump die defects on the right leg near the knee, and another on the neck.
Rev. A. Same as letter A.



ML Beistle 1929

Beistle also lists his 1873 No Arrows Proof die marriage 1A which is also an Open 3 with another obverse die. Also not specifically stated as "Open 3," here he says "...The two knobs of 3 are far apart." (See partial scan below from his book, page 174).

No Arrow Heads at the Date
2,617,500 Half Dollars Coined for Year 1873
1873 1 A. No arrow heads are at the date. The foot is only partially supported, and the toe is not enclosed. The two knobs of 3 are far apart.
Rev. A. Perfect. Proof.

This "proof" half dollar is discussed in more detail on pages 24-25.

¹ Bugert, Bill. A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties Volume VI, 1856 to 1873 No Arrows. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2022.

² A few modern references refer to the Closed 3 as the "Close" 3. This is inaccurate and refutes tradition.

³ Beistle, Martin Luther. A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties and Sub-Varieties. Shippensburg, PA: The Beistle Company, 1929. For more information on ML Beistle, I have researched and written extensively on him and his half dollar collection; see *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #100.

Regardless of who first discovered the Open 3 characteristic, without a doubt Harry X Boosel (1912-1994) is the numismatist who made it very popular. Starting in the late 1950s, Harry published articles often in *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine* on his research findings on all denominations of U.S. and foreign 1873 coinage. He was particularly captivated by the Closed 3 / Open 3 date style, and he even designed his own logo which he used on the letterhead of his articles and personal letters (see below).

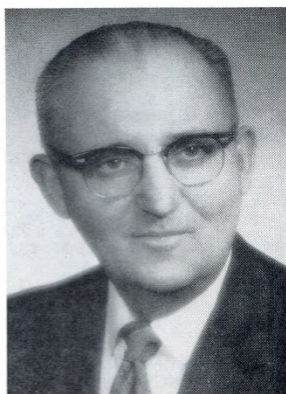


Harry's 1873 coinage collection was auctioned by RARCOA at the April 1972 Central States Numismatic Society's Convention in Milwaukee, WI (Harry's bio was featured in this auction catalogue and is shown at the right.)⁴ In that sale, Harry offered the two 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars he was able to find. One of the lot descriptions states "After 25 years of research, Mr. Boosel states that ONLY 2 of these coins could be found. Mr. Boosel ordered every coin so listed in any ad and those in auction over the years, only to find that they were all Closed 3 coins." Harry's efforts to find 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars are described in a 1979 *Gobrecht Journal* article⁵ written by LSCC President, John McCloskey. That article lists eight known examples of that variety. Later listings in the *Gobrecht Journal* document additional examples found by collectors. We now know there are at least 84 existing (documented in this Register) but only so because he popularized this variety and motivated collectors to search for it.

Incidentally, at the 1984 American Numismatic Society's Coinage of Americas Conference, Harry displayed his hoard of over fifty 1873 No Arrows Closed 3 half dollars,

⁴ Harry's 1873 dated coin duplicates were sold previously in the Lester Merkin public auction of September 18, 1968. There were no 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars in that sale.

⁵ McCloskey, John. *The 1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar*, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16, November 1979.



HARRY X BOOSEL

Native of (1912) and resides in Chicago. Started in Government work as a file clerk in Washington in 1936. Has risen to the top of his field and for the past seven years has been Chief of the Office of Industrial Security for the Defense Supply Agency. Boosel plans to retire from Government work this year after 36 years of

service, including 4 years with the Armed Forces. While in the Army he was in the Counter-Intelligence-Corps and the Office of Strategic Services, (OSS).

Joined the ANA in 1934 (#4343) and became a Life Member (77) in 1943 while heading overseas with the Army to Europe. Was the youngest member ever elected to the ANA Board of Governors (1937). Only man to be Chairman of two ANA Conventions (1937 and 1966). Chairman of National Coin Week in 1950. President of the Chicago Coin Club (1951 and 1952). President of Central States Numismatic Society (1958-1960.) Awarded Medal of Merit from both. Chairman of many local and Regional conventions. Member American Numismatic Society since 1950. Appointed to Assay Commission by President Johnson in 1964.

Boosel was impressed early in his collecting career by a statement on the back of one of B. Max Mehl's auction catalogs wherein Mehl (with whom he later became personally acquainted) quoted Edmond de Goncourt as saying in his will that he wished all his treasures dispersed on his death so that others with his same tastes could acquire his treasures and pleasures rather than consign them to a museum for the stupid stares of the casual passer-by. Boosel's idea is that anyone who desires, can acquire something from this collection, the items of which will be 100 years old next year (1973).

He does not plan to give up numismatics nor 1873. He will continue research and will serve numismatics better since he will retire soon. He is the one who put the Open and Closed 3 of 1873 before the eyes of the collecting fraternity.

NOTE: All successful bidders on 1873 material of \$100 or more will be given a free copy of Boosel's book "1873-1873" as long as the limited supply lasts. Successful bidders of over \$1000 will be given a hard-bound copy. All will be autographed and will include reprints of articles published since the book.

RARE COIN COMPANY OF AMERICA

PAGE 1

Scan from the RARCOA April 1972 auction catalogue of the Boosel 1873 Collection

resultant from his search for the Open 3s. In hindsight, I wished I then had a camera to photograph them for posterity.

Harry resided in “ChicagoLand” but in his later years he also owned a home in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida where he resided in winter. Shown at the right is his personalized “H(arry) X B(oosel)-1873” Florida license plate from Len Augsburg courtesy of the Chris Patton Collection



It is known that three major types of half dollars were minted in 1873: Closed 3, Open 3, and With Arrows. The mintages of all three are not precisely known and subject to various theories and assumptions but the basic information is displayed in the following table.

1873 Philadelphia Mint Half Dollars

Type	Dates minted	Quantity minted	
1873 Closed 3	Before March 31 1873	587,200 ?	These figures are speculative and not actually known.
1873 Open 3		214,200 ?	
1873 Arrows	After March 31 1873	1,815,700	

As discussed in the previous paragraphs, the table below matches the discovery coins that Harry X Boosel verified and listed in pages of the *Gobrecht Journal* from 1979 to 1981 (see end notes) to the half dollars in this Register.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars reported in *Gobrecht Journal*

Coin #	Grade, discoverer	Key Date	BB-# cross reference
1	Unc., Harry X Boosel Discovery Coin	6/1953	BB-06
2	VG-F, Harry X Boosel's 2 nd coin	1/1971	BB-27
3	F-VF, Floyd Farley	10/1966	BB-20
4	Unc., James Bennett Pryor	5/1973	BB-04
5	AU, James Bennett Pryor	2/1976	BB-02
6	VF, Wayne Weber	4/1972	BB-09
7	Good, Dick McFadden	1977	Unknown ¹
8	XF, Mike Marker	5/1979	BB-11
9	VF, Kam Ahwash	11/1979	BB-23
10	XF, Pennsylvania Collector	11/1980	BB-72
11	G, Pacific Northwest Collector	7/1986	BB-59

¹ Coin #7 was listed in the *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16 as grading good without images and without an adequate description. It is unknown to me which coin this is and without additional information from the owner(s), the identification of this coin is lost to history.

1873 Open 3 date style. The early issues of 1873 had a 3 that was almost closed with the knobs nearly touching. In a letter dated January 18, 1 873 Chief Coiner Snowden lodged a formal complaint about this defect with Mint Director Pollock. He writes *“I desire in a formal manner to direct your attention to the figures used in dating the dies for the present year. They are so heavy, and the space between each so small that upon the smaller gold and silver, and upon the base coins it is almost impossible to distinguish with the naked eye, whether the last figure is an eight or a three.* Later in the same letter he states *I would recommend that an entire new set of figures avoiding the defects of those now in use, be prepared at the earliest possible day.* In his encyclopedia Walter Breen indicates that Mint Director Pollock at once ordered the Engraving Department to prepare new date logotypes with an Open 3 for all denominations. The gap between the knobs on the Closed 3 was widened creating the Open 3 logotypes that were used later in the year. The images below show the differences between the Closed 3 and Open 3 logotypes for 1873 half dollar. It is entirely plausible that the closed 3 date punches were reworked into the open 3 configuration. See Appendix A for a detailed discussion.

Examples of the 1873 No Arrows Closed 3 and Open 3 half dollar date styles are shown below. The distance between the knobs of the 3s is clearly visible on coins of all grades. This is a “naked eye” variety and easy to attribute even without magnification.



1873 No Arrows **Closed 3** Half Dollar date



1873 No Arrows **Open 3** Half Dollar Date

Miscellaneous Information

Contained herein is information on eighty-four different 1873 No Arrow Open 3 half dollars, the most complete compilation of this variety known to me. As with all my Registers, I took great pains to collect correct and current information before publishing this booklet. Specifically, I received input from over eighteen half dollar collectors. Their information helped identify specific coins and current owners. Most did not have pedigree information past their purchase but knowing who had the coin is worthwhile effort. Additionally, I kept sales and ownership records of many coins including the 1873 No Arrow Open 3 half dollar for many years, literally decades. Randy Wiley did the same and he generously lent me his notes; he was able to fill in a lot of private sales information I did not have. I also refer to many auction

catalogues, auction prices realized, and price lists from my personal collection and that of the Newman Numismatic Portal (For those of you who do not use the NNP, you are missing out on a great research and reference tool.). Online auction databases such as Newman Numismatic Portal, Heritage, Stack's Bowers, Great Collections, PCGS CoinFacts, David Kahn Rare Coins, David Lawrence Rare Coins, and others.

Before the 1990s, auction companies often used few photographic plates and incomplete lot descriptions. For example, lot descriptions might mention only a date and mention arrows or no arrows. Auction data from the mid-1990s improved and most instances in this Register of this variety are only cited since then.

Although I was unable to find lengthy pedigree information on all the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars in this Register, I sincerely hope this Register is useful, informative, and a motivator to encourage interest in collecting this rare variety.

Lastly, I apologize as this Register is not as complete as it could be or as I want it to be. Sadly, a few individuals not listed herein reported to me that they owned an 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar but were unwilling to share any information on them. Perhaps they are listed here as an "Unknown collector," or their coins will appear in a future edition of this Register.

WB-6 versus WB-7

Unknown to many, there are actually two die marriages for the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar. WB-7, currently unique, has a different obverse die than the more "common" WB-6. Both can be differentiated by the different lumps on Liberty and the date position. Please see pages 20-21 for exact details of the differences. I have made every effort to make sure the coins depicted in this Register are attributed correctly. For high grade coins, the task is simple; for very low graded coins, differentiating the two is nearly, if not, impossible. Until otherwise evidenced, I made the gross assumption for these difficult coins as WB-6s.

Rarity

Using information from many sources including eighteen individuals, I have herein documented 84 different examples of the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar. I am absolutely convinced others exist and I would put the total number as existent at approximately 100. That puts the rarity rating of this variety (for the WB-6; the WB-7 is currently unique) at R-4+ (76-200 known). These coins do come on the market periodically, are relatively expensive and are a great variety to add to your Liberty Seated half dollar collection.

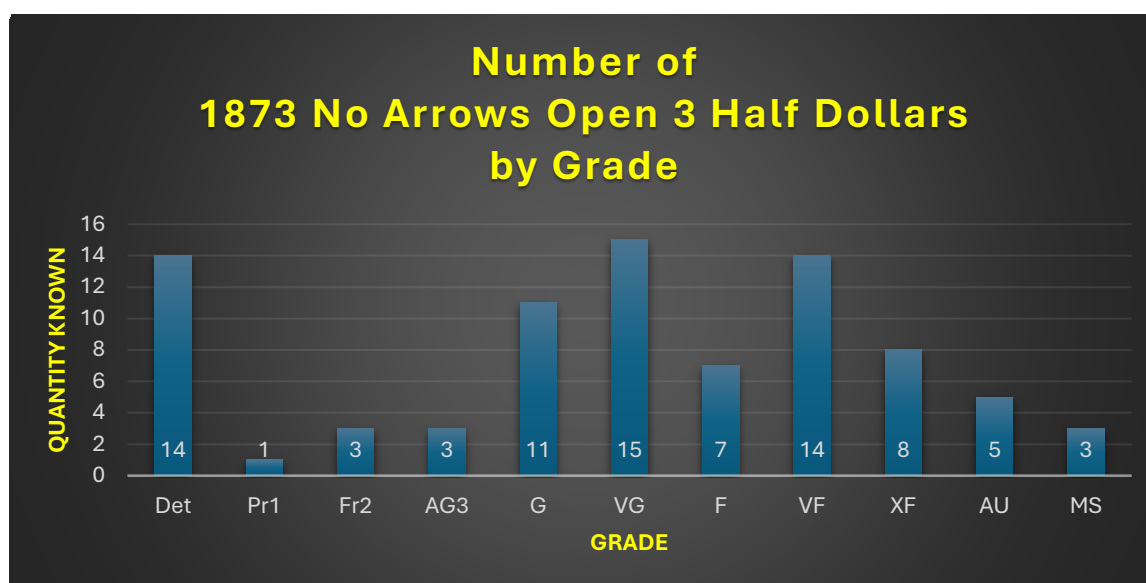
Pertinent Information

Purpose of this publication. With this document, it is my desire and ultimate goal to record information (images, known pedigree, and miscellaneous notes) on all the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars. I believe there exists approximately 100 examples (84 are detailed here) and finding them all with useful pedigree information and images will be a worthwhile continual task with constant updates. This is my start (although I have been keeping records for decades) at this effort.

I have assigned a BB-## to each coin so that past and future presences of these coins may be easily tracked.

Disclaimer. This *Register* is only as good as the information collected from many sources. I have taken great pains to remove inaccuracies, but I suspect some information included here may not be accurate and/or incomplete. I have listed “known pedigree details” for each coin and I admit that details are very sparse. Little is known to me about sales history of these coins.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars by grade. The chart below depicts the census of the 84 known examples listed herein by major grade.



From the chart depicted above, it is readily apparent that this variety is represented in all grades. Most appear to be centered in the lower-to-middle grades, and a sixth of the coins are details grades. Collectors wishing to add this variety to their collections have a number of grade options once the current owners disperse them, but that may take years. They do show up periodically in auctions and coin bourses, so diligence is necessary to obtain one.

I know I will get some push-back on putting the details graded coins at the end of the census but I feel that graded coins deserve a higher standing. Some of the census includes unholdered coins in the non-details category but I made a conscious decision to include them there until they are accurately graded, they will remain as such.

How did I collect this data? I acknowledge that a lot of information is missing from this *Register* and there may be some inaccurate data. I strived to have only accurate information. I researched this date using many sources. They are listed below:

- **Person to person conversations.** In most cases, I recorded the information I received; some were considered questionable until I was able to verify it or discard it.
- **My personal numismatic library of auction catalogues going back to the 1930s.** *Numismatic News' Auction Prices Realized for U.S. Coins* for individual years was a reference time saver. Older catalogues and many catalogues missing from individual libraries are now available on the Newman Numismatic Portal. This portal made many numismatic bibliophiles' libraries outmoded, but it is a great time saver.
- **Modern online auction company archives.** These reference libraries of auction results usually had great images, slab numbers, and good descriptions and notably included Heritage and Stack's Bowers.
- **Numismatic and dealer publications.** These include but are not limited to *The Gobrecht Journal*, *Coin World*, *Numismatic News*, and dealer price lists and announcements.
- **Coin show bourse and dealer cases.** Roaming the large coin shows sometimes produced an 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar in a dealer's case. Mostly, dealers were cooperative with allowing me to image or draw the details of the coin and record information. In all cases, past pedigree information was not offered.
- **Third party grading companies' online records.** I have more on this in the following sections, but this provided great information and leads for me to follow.
- **My "other help."** Many numismatic friends knew of my effort to document all rare half dollar varieties and were proactive in helping me with information. These friends would find them on bourse floors, online, and in publications a were helpful in my effort to complete this *Register*.
- **Randy Wiley.** Randy and I researched this date and others together for many years. In speaking with Randy, he acknowledges that this variety is indeed rare.

TPG encapsulation statistics. The tables below depict the number of certified 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars as of the date specified. Most certified examples of this variety are variety attributed and identification is simple by observing the Open 3 in the date.

Number of certified 1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollars

1873 NA OP3 50¢	Number of coins certified			
Grading service →	PCGS	CACG	NGC	ANACS
Grade ↓				
MS63	1			
MS62	2	1		
MS60				1
AU58+		1		
AU58	1		4	
AU55	2		1	
AU50	1			1
XF45			2	1
XF40	5		1	
VF35	4			
VF30	3		1	1
VF25	1		1	1
VF20	5		1	1
F15	2			1
F12	4			
VG10	2			1
VG08	8		1	3
G06	7		1	1
G04	3			4
AG03	3		3	2
Fr02	3		1	
Pr01	1			
Details	4		11	6
Grand Total	58	2	17	18

¹ Data as of February 2026.

² SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

³ PCGS does not list separate “Details” grade coins but includes them in the total number graded. NGC and ANACS separate “Details” graded coins by grade.

⁴ The Grand Total adds to 95 coins. After years of research, I can only account for 84 of them. Some of them may be resubmissions.

Photographs. Most of the images of 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars depicted in this Register are from other sources. While some are not ideal for a modern state of the art publication, many are the best that I have or could get but are good enough to properly identify a specific coin.

Confidentiality. Much information provided to me in confidence (such as current owners) is omitted to protect individual privacy. That information, however, is included in my personal unpublished reference copy.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollars by Grade and Authentication Service

Grade	PCGS Slab #	BB #	CACG Slab #	BB #	NGC/NCS Slab #	BB #	ANACS Holder/ Papers	BB #	Raw	BB #
MS63	50323004 24464544	01 01			212782-001	01	NK	01		
MS62	25228905	02	920598656	02						
MS61					1716025-046	02				
MS60							546358	03		
AU58+			261797863	04						
AU58	26147670	05			3377930-007 3432011-004	04 06				
AU55	2864976 41295179	07 06							Raw	71
AU50					2115983-002 (D)	71	1368487 (D) 445584 NK (D)	72 06 11	Raw	08
XF45					3652084-002 NK	10 13			Wiley	09
XF40	13885198 42543741 46214318 5680350	16 11 15 14			1844604-001 3607822-013 (D)	12 73	2947922 (D)	75	Raw	73
VF35	21571359 25683052 28891707 38172839	20 18 17 17								
VF30	04779339 04940990 06640838 30918723 30957801 32446428	19 22 22 21 18 21			6330920-001	74	NK	22		
VF25	27238569	25			3605529-001 3699434-001	25 24			Ahwash	23
VF20	30621444 3438882 38222188	26 27 28			4883782-003 5200705-001 (D) 6330920-001 (D)	29 76 74			NK	30
F15	20628115 NK	31 36					298920	32		
F12	04954077 16618887 22023914 45353352 (D)	31 33 34 77			3607823-009 (D)	78	NK (D)	80	O'D Stack's	37 38

NK = Number Not Known (to Bugert)

(D) = Details holder

Note: SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

= Still in TPG database records

~~Strike thru~~ = Specific coin's previous TPG number

Table continued next page

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollars by Grade and Authentication Service (Continued)

Grade	PCGS Slab #	BB #	CACG Slab #	BB #	NGC/NCS Slab #	BB #	ANACS Holder/ Papers	BB #	Raw	BB #
VG10	20525380 51055506	39 40							eBay	48
VG08	21636602 30857399 40777923 (D) 43136456 43164457 50629207 (D) 5235598 5360016 56560885 NK	46 43 79 44 45 81 42 56 35 57			1656189-001 4773046-001 (D)	47 82	NK O'D	39 41	eBay Smith	49 51
G06	02732516 97664349 44540328 54299865	55 50 54 59			4885011-005	46	448077	59	eBay	63
G04	33262354 388188502 49671260 (D)	62 58 83			3129397-004	58	EX3863 580161 F-2752-I NK	53 60 61 52		
AG03	40493940 27458457	65 64			NK	66	2953506 (D) NK	84 67		
Fr02	38794342 49427337 51151904	67 68 68			3314999-013	69				
Pr01									Briggs	70

NK = Number Not Known (to Bugert)

(D) = Details holder

Note: SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

= Still in TPG database records

~~Strike thru~~ = Specific coin's previous TPG number

Characteristics of a Genuine 1873 NA OP3 WB-6 Half Dollar

extracted from *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V, Philadelphia Mint 1839 to 1852*

1873 No Arrows WB-6, Open 3, Circulation Strike			
<u>Obverse 5</u>		<u>Reverse D</u>	
		• No usable die diagnostics seen • Clash in shield's lower right	
• Date right (photo)			
			
• Large lumps on Liberty's chest (photo)			
			
• Large lumps across Liberty's right knee (photo)			
This is the only use of this obverse die and second use of this reverse die.			
Date grid: R2.5, .022"		144 reeds	Typical diameter = 1.206"
Drapery die state: Full		Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full
Grade of coin depicted: XF45		Coin from the Randy Wiley Collection	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version ISA.CS	

Characteristics of a Genuine 1873 NA OP3 WB-7 Half Dollar

extracted from *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V, Philadelphia Mint 1839 to 1852*

1873 No Arrows WB-7, Open 3, Proof Strike			
<u>Obverse 6</u>		<u>Reverse E</u>	
		No usable die diagnostics seen	
Date centered (photo) but more to the left than Obverse 6 (compare date position and dentil position on the left edge of the base of the 1)			
			
Large lump on Liberty's neck (photo)			
			
Lump on the rock near Liberty's index finger (photo)			
This is the only use of this obverse die and only use of this reverse die.			
Date grid: R1, .020"	Unknown reeds	Typical diameter = Unknown"	Rarity – 8? See text
Drapery die state: Full	Foot support: Full	Dentils: Obverse - Full; Reverse - Full	
Grade of coin depicted: NGC Proof-61		Coin from the Stack's Bowers 2011 Auction	
Cross reference: WB-101.		Version ISA.CS	

Certified as proof by NGC, it is more likely a circulation strike coin.

Table of Listings

1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollars

BB#	Page
BB-01 PCGS MS63 CAC	24
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BB-03 ANACS MS60.....	28
BB-04 CACG AU58+.....	29
BB-05 PCGS AU58.....	30
BB-06 PCGS AU55.....	31
BB-07 PCGS AU55.....	33
BB-08 Raw AU50	34
BB-09 Raw XF45.....	35
BB-10 NGC XF45.....	36
BB-11 PCGS XF40	37
BB-12 NGC XF40.....	38
BB-13 NGC unknown.....	39
BB-14 XF40 unknown.....	40
BB-15 PCGS XF40	41
BB-16 PCGS XF40	42
BB-17 PCGS VF35.....	43
BB-18 PCGS VF35 CAC	44
BB-19 PCGS VF30.....	45
BB-20 PCGS VF35.....	46
BB-21 PCGS VF30.....	47
BB-22 PCGS VF30.....	48
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**The
1873 No Arrows Open 3
Liberty Seated
Half Dollars**

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar **WB-7** BB-01



Beautiful toning Few scattered marks in the field between Liberty's right shin and star 13	Beautiful toning Few minor scattered marks to left and right of eagle's head
Grade: MS63 Previously PF61	Certified: PCGS 6360.63/24464544 CAC ex-PCGS 6360.?/50323004 ex-NGC 212782-001 as PF61 (with "Open 3" designation) ex-NGC 212782-001 as PF61 (without "Open 3" designation) ex-ANACS certificate, circa 1982 details unknown
Cross reference: WB-106	

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions ANA U.S. Coins Signature Auction, 8/18/2024: @ \$78,000 (as PCGS MS63 #24464544 **CAC**). Listed in the auction incorrectly as the more common WB-6.

ex-The Benedict Family Collection

ex-2012 Baltimore Whitman Expo bourse (as PCGS MS63 #24464544)

ex-Stack's Bowers Chicago ANA Money Auction 8/18/2011:7367 @ \$31,625 (as NGC holder).
See note #4.

ex-Jack Marston 10/1991 (Private sale from Jim O'Donnell @ \$28,000)

ex-Gobrecht Journal Issue #47, Jim O'Donnell offered @ \$45,000

ex-Jim O'Donnell coin stock 1990 (Jim had it certified as NGC **PF61** without and later reholdered with the "Open 3" designation.)

Continued on next page

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar **WB-7** BB-01 (Continued)

ex-RARCOA Auction '86 7/25/1986:657 @ \$11,000 to Jim O'Donnell (Raw – Ch BU PL)
Discovered as a second variety of the 1873 NA Open 3 at the August 1982 ANA Convention

ex-Unknown collector circa 1963 @ \$25 (**ANACS** holder in 1982)

ex-Chicago coin shop purchased it approximately 1963 @ \$20

ex-Likely ML Beistle Half Dollar collection (1920s) then sold with his collection to Colonel EHR Green to fund his half dollar book (1929)⁶

Photo credit: PCGS.com

Note:

1. See *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #57, 7/1993
2. I studied this coin and photographed it in the slab at the October 2012 Whitman Baltimore Expo. It was then in PCGS MS63 slab number #24464544 without the CAC sticker.
3. This coin was misidentified as the more common WB-6 in the 8/2024 Heritage Auction.
4. Stack's Bowers has a 2018 forty-five second video of this coin (see image at right) with Q. David Bowers and David Hall at

<https://www.facebook.com/stacks.bowers/videos/1873-seated-liberty-half-dollar-open-3-no-arrows-ngc-pf-61/1779447368754064/>.

Numismatic Reflections by Q. David Bowers

By any evaluation the 1873 Open 3 half dollar is a rarity. Relatively few exist and auction offerings are few and far between. As to the "Crime of 1873," in my opinion this is political hokum. In my opinion, the coinage act, carefully studied and crafted by John Jay Knox (one of the more intelligent people and also a numismatist ever to serve the government), was not a crime at all. In fact, the Congress without any problems passed it. Later, when there was much squawking by vested interests in the West, particularly those connected with mining, history was rewritten. I could extemporize at great length on this, but space is precious. In any event, it was the Coinage Act of 1873 that ended the Closed 3 and started the Open 3 date logotype, central to the rarity consideration of the presently offered half.



Additional discussion. This half dollar is currently unique for variety WB-7. It is long thought to be ML Beistle's proof coin in his 1929 book listing as "1 A...Proof" (see page 9). Jim O'Donnell, who thought it was a proof, submitted it to NGC who certified it as a proof coin in June 1989. I studied this coin on two separate occasions and agree that it has watery surfaces and reflective fields, but with a light strike and rounded rims (Proofs typically have square rims). In discussions with John Dannreuther, who recently completed his silver proof reference book(s), we both agree that the coin is beautiful but a circulation strike, not a proof strike. More important unanswered questions (to me) are: why is this coin unique? Was this coin a post-1873 restrike specially struck coin for a dignitary or special event, assay coin that escaped melting, or what? Regardless of its status, it is a unique numismatic rarity of importance to Liberty Seated collectors.

⁶ Many numismatists believe ML Beistle studied Colonel EHR Green's half dollar collection for his 1929 book. Actually, Beistle sold his primary half dollar collection to Colonel Green to pay for the costs of his book. For details and proof of this, see my article in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #100.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-02



Gorgeous gold toning Old small scratch in the field between star 2 and Liberty's arm Black dot to right of Liberty's right wrist Dark spots above and below the (18)7(3)	Gorgeous gold toning Bag mark above upper berry
Grade: MS62	Certified: CACG MS62 #920598656 ex-PCGS MS62 #25228905 CAC "Hansen" ex-PCGS MS62 #25228905 CAC ex-NGC MS61 #1716025-046 Gold CAC "Richmond Collection"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

D. L. Hansen Collection (first as PCGS MS62 CAC "Hansen"; later as CACG MS62)
ex-Regency Auction XVIII 9/29/2016 @ \$DNS (PCGS MS62 CAC without Hansen pedigree)
ex-Regency Auction XVII 5/19/2016 @ \$DNS
ex-Heritage Auction of the Eugene Gardner Collection 10/27/2014:98512 @ \$55,812.50 (NGC MS61 Gold CAC)
ex-Eugene Gardner Collection

Continued on next page

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-02 (Continued)

ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins Sale of the Richmond Collection Part III (Bradley Hirst) 3/2005:1751 @ \$50,600 (NGC MS61)ex-Bowers and Merena Sale of the James Bennett Pryor ² Collection, 1/1996:214 @ \$23,100 ex-James Bennett Pryor Advertisement in <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> Issue #19 11/1980 @ \$20,000 ³ ex-James Bennett Pryor Half Dollar Collection <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> Issue #16 Discovery Coin #5 ex-Stack's Public Auction Sale 2/4-6/1976:760 @ \$725	Photo credit: CACCoin.com
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Note:

1. I believe the pedigree listing on the 1/1996 Pryor Sale lot 214 (as ex-Stack's Patten Sale May 1973, lot 402) is incorrect. That sale's photo matches this coin but BB-04 matches *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16 **Discovery coin #4** plate with the Patten pedigree.
2. James Bennett Pryor (1936-1991) was co-owner of the Mayfield (KY) Printing Company, prominent half dollar collector, and one of the original seven numismatists that founded the Liberty Seated Collectors Club in 1974. He printed and bound the first issue of the *Gobrecht Journal*.
3. From personal experience, I know Jim Pryor was a very tough grader; his advertisement for this coin (he grades it AU55!) is in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #19 as below:

1873 No Arrows "OPEN 3" AU 55 50c..... \$20,000.00
Authenticated by Harry Boosel, Mr. "1873". Only the non-collectable 1853-0 No
Arrows, No Rays 50c is rarer than this Seated Half-Dollar! This is the 3rd finest of the
10 now known. Not cleaned, original golden, rose color and lustrous. Probably a on-
ce-in-a-lifetime opportunity. The only recorded sale of this rarity since Mr. Boosel's
personal example in 1973, was a VF earlier this year @ \$6,200.

Jim Pryor's advertisement for his half dollar in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #19

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-03



Four small gouges on and in the field to the right of Liberty's right arm

Untoned thru (HAL)F D(OL) to claw

Grade: MS60

Certified: ANACS MS60 #546358

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Rich Uhrich Rare Coins inventory

ex-Stack's Bowers August 2011 Chicago ANA Rarities Night Session 6 sale of the Dick Osburn Collection 8/13/2011:7111 @ \$20,700 to Rich Uhrich

ex-Dick Osburn Half Dollar Collection

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins, 11/1998 @ \$16,000 private sale to Dick Osburn

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins Cleveland Coin Show bourse March 1997 @ \$19,500

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Numismatic News* and *Coin World* advertisements 3/1996 thru 12/1996 @ \$11,500

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement 8/1995 @ \$12,500

ex-Bowers and Merena Sale of the Long Collection 5/1995:1110 @ \$8,250 to Larry Briggs

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-04



Grayish brown with gold and rose at borders Few marks in right obverse field	Four dirt lumps thru OF Dirt lump on olive Leaf #2's lower edge
Grade: AU58+	Certified: CACG AU58+ #261797863 "Pioneer Boone Family Collection" ex-NGC AU58 #3377930-007 "Pioneer Boone Family Col."

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

The Greene Half Dollar Collection (in CACG holder)
 ex-Heritage Auction Sale of the Pioneer Boone Family Collection 5/16/2022:45244 @ \$21,600
 (in NGC holder)
 ex-Pioneer Boone Family Collection¹ (This is the James Bailey Estate Collection.)
 ex-James Bailey Half Dollar Collection
 ex-James Bennett Pryor Half Dollar Collection *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16 **Discovery Coin #4**
 ex-Stack's Public Auction Sale of the Charles H. Patten Collection² 5/1973:402 @ \$250

Photo credit: CACCoin.com

- Notes: 1. Per my conversation with James Bailey decades ago, he was an ancestry researcher and determined his family was a direct descendant of Daniel Boone; hence, the "Pioneer Boone Family Collection" pedigree. James Alden Bailey was an LSCC member and prominent Liberty Seated half dollar collector.
2. I believe the pedigree listing on the 1/1996 Pryor Sale (as ex-Stack's Patten Sale May 1973, lot 402) is incorrect. That sale's photo matches BB-02 but this coin matches *Gobrecht Journal* **Discovery coin #4** plate with the Patten pedigree.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-05



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



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Few minor marks in the right field between
Liberty's elbow and star 11

Tiny dirt spot between (AME)RI(CA)

Grade: AU58

Certified: PCGS AU58 #26147670

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature 1/10/2019:4493 @ \$14,400

ex-Big Sky Collection of Half Dollars

ex-Heritage Auctions Central States U.S. Coins Signature Sale 4/28/2016:4666 @ \$15,275

ex-Stack's Bowers July 2015 Baltimore Auction 7/21/2015:4402 @ \$DNS

ex-Stack's Bowers June 2013 Baltimore Auction 6/20/2013:1311 @ \$DNS

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature 1/10/2013:5649 @ \$28,200

ex-Larry Briggs coin stock Catalogue #3 Summer 1995 @ \$12,500

ex-Bowers and Merena Sale of the Kenneth C. Long Estate Collection 5/1995:1110 @ \$8,250

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-06

“The Harry X Boosel Discovery Coin”



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



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Lustrous light toning <u>Small horizontal scratch to left of date¹</u> Few small ticks in field to lower left of star 13 Small ticks in field to the right of drapery Small rim hit at K-3 by star 13	Lustrous light toning Small marks above HALF DOL Small mark between right end of scroll and eagle's neck
Grade: AU55	Certified: PCGS AU55 #41295179 untoned ex-NGC AU58 #3432011-004 untoned³ ex-ANACS SWH AU50 #445584 toned
Cross reference: WB-106	

Known Pedigree Details

Private Half Dollar Collection (PCGS)
 ex-Heritage Auctions World's Fair of Money ANA Signature Sale 8/14/2019 @ \$13,200 (NGC)
 ex-Heritage Auctions FUN Signature Sale 1/7/2015:4138 @ \$21,150
 ex-Stack's Bowers August 2013 ANA Auction: Rarities Night 8/15/2013:4219 @ \$DNS (NGC)
 ex-Richard Jewell Collection
 ex-Heritage Auctions Central States Signature Sale 4/19/2012:5125 @ \$34,500 (NGC)
 ex-Heritage Auctions Summer FUN Signature Sale 7/7/2011:3663 @ \$40,250 (NGC)
 ex-Heritage Auctions Boston Signature ANA Coin Auction 8/11/2010:3162 @ \$8,625 (ANACS)

Continued on next page

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-06 (Continued)

“The Harry X Boosel Discovery Coin”

Known Pedigree Details (Continued)

ex-Harry X Boosel Collection

ex-Heritage Auctions Rosemont (CSNS) Signature Coin Auction 4/16/2008:1142 @ \$10,925 (ANACS)

ex-Lowell Yoder² Family Collection

ex-Kagin's Atlanta Sale #344 8/23/24/1987:1331 @ \$6,380 (toned, not certified)

ex-DMX Fretwell to West Coast client

ex-RARCOA Central States Society 1972 Convention Sale of the Harry X Boosel 1873 Collection 4/28-30/1972:605 @ \$800 to DMX Fretwell

ex-Howard Smith, Chicago dealer to Harry X Boosel (1953) *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16

Discovery Coin #1

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note:

1. This short scratch is the key identifier for this coin.
2. Lowell Yoder (1930-2023) was a LSCC member and half dollar collector who lived in Ohio.
3. Somewhere between August 2010 and July 2011, someone removed this coin from the ANACS holder (see image below left), conserved it, and crossed it to NGC for a higher grade (AU50 to AU58) (see image below right). Then, the current owner crossed it to PCGS for an AU55 grade.



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1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-07



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Scruffy silvery surfaces	
Grade: AU55	Certified: PCGS AU55 #2864976 Series Holder
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-New York Gold Mark, Inc. pricelist 12/2025 @ \$16,000. Concurrently listed on the U.S. Rare Coin Investments website for \$16,750 ex-Heritage Auctions 4/30/2025:3215 @ \$12,600 ex-Bowers and Merena Sale January 2009 Orlando Sale 1/4/2009:695 @ \$16,100 ex-Superior Stamp & Coin Co. New York 2002 ANA Sale 8/2002:992 @ \$6,900 ex-Heritage Auction Central States Sale 4/26/2002:6632 @ \$DNS	
Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-08



Silver and violet toning	Mostly blue toning
Grade: AU50	Certified: Raw, certified now?
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u>	
Unknown collector ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale 1/4/2000:177 @ \$6,900 ex-Jim O'Donnell ex-Bowers and Merena 1891-1991 ANA Centennial Auction 8/1991:4338 @ \$7,425¹	
Photo credit: Scan of Bowers and Merena 2000 auction catalogue	

Note:

1. The 1991 auction lot has no images, but the description matches this coin.

B+M 8/1991:4338 lot description	B+M 1/2000:177 lot description
1873 Open 3. EF-45. Mostly brilliant surfaces with some areas of lilac and steel blue on the reverse.	1873 No Arrows, Open 3. Breen-4971. AU-50. Satiny silver brilliance tempered with rich violet toning at the obverse rim and heavy splashes of violet and blue on the reverse. Highly lustrous on the obverse, not so lustrous on the reverse. A few scattered marks are present, but the overall appeal is choice for the grade.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-09

	
Small marks in right field	Tiny rim cut below D(OL)
Grade: XF45	Certified: Raw XF45
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Randy Wiley Half Dollar Reference Collection (his inventory 1873 #W-61) ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins FUN Show sale 1/1999 @ \$6,000 to Randy Wiley ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins price list 12/1998 @ \$7,900 ex-JJ Teaparty <i>Numismatic News</i> advertisement 5/26/1984 @ \$1,950 ex-Gobrecht <i>Journal</i> Issue #16 Discovery Coin #6 ex-Wayne Weber Half Dollar Collection ex-Anderson Coin and Novelties, Menasha, WI, purchased in Beaver Dam, WI 4/20/1974 @ \$55 Photo credit: Bill Bugert	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-10



Marks in the right field and at the base of the pole

Shallow scratches in the field above the left wing
Slight rim disturbance at K-3

Grade: XF45

Certified: NGC XF45 #3652084-002

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

North Woods Half Dollar Collection
ex-GFRC Sale 5/2019 @ \$8,000
ex-Seal Beach Collection duplicate
ex-GFRC online offering 6/2018 @ \$8,000

Photo credit: GFRC.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-11



Attractive toning Small mark in field between foot and star 13	Small dig in the field above (HAL)F Dark spot along rim below (DOL.)
Grade: XF40	Certified: PCGS XF40 #42543741 ex-ANACS AU details # Unknown
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-Stack's Bowers August 2021 ANA Auction 8-12-2021:3191 @ \$3,840 (PCGS) ex-Lincoln Square Collection ex-ANR Sale of the Kennywood Collection 1/10/2005:584 @ \$6,670 (XF40 details, not certified) ex-The Kennywood Collection ex-Heritage Auctions Session 3, Auction #355 9/10/2004:6669 @ \$DNS (ANACS holder) ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins price list 12/1991 @ \$7,900 ex-Mike Marker private sale to Charlton Meyer, Jr.¹ 1982 @ #3,500 ex-Mike Marker Half Dollar Collection 1979 (image shown in <i>Gobrecht Journal</i> Issue #16 Discovery coin # 8), Ohio flea market purchase in 5/1979	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

¹ Charlton "Swampy" Meyer (1931-2006) was a true Louisiana southern gentleman who collected all half dollars. He was an LSCC member and is especially noted for his complete die marriage set of 450 bust half dollars. Sheridan Downey sold his collection in 2008-2009.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-12



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



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Deep gray color Small marks around date and in field off right ankle	Deep gray color Few marks in crotch formed by olive branch and arrow feather tip
Grade: XF40	Certified: NGC XF40 #1844604-001
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown Collector ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature Auction 1/4/2012:3588 @ \$8,625 ex-Brian Greer pricelist 1/2001 @ \$5,650 ex-Teletrade Online Auction #1261 1/11/2000:1527 @ \$ Unknown ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale featuring the Douglas L. Noblet Collection of Half Dollars 1/5-6/1999:167 @ \$4,830 ex-Heritage Numismatics pricelist 12/1995 @ \$5,475 ex-Heritage Rare Coin Galleries <i>Coin World</i> pricelist 5/1/1995 @ \$7,500 ex-Teletrade Online Auction #781 10/18/1992 @ \$4,500	
Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-13



Lustrous Two black dots in horizontal shield liens	Lustrous
Grade: XF45	Certified: NGC Grade and # Unknown
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown – found on NGC Coin Explorer ex-No details available	
Photo credit: NGCcoin.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-14



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Dark toning
Scruffy fields
Small scratch near star 2

Dark toning
Few rough spots under eagle's beak

Grade: XF40

Certified: unknown, likely PCGS
ex-PCGS XF40 #5680350

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector (unknown whether unholdered or holdered in a different slab)
ex-Heritage Auctions 10/9/2022:3648 @ \$4,080 (PCGS #5680350)
ex-Allan H. Goldman Collection
ex-Bowers and Merena Galleries Sale of the Wayne S. Rich Collection 3/21/2002:2486 @ \$5,060
ex-JJ Teaparty *Coin World* advertisement 1/7/2002 @ \$5,450
ex-JJ Teaparty pricelist 1/5/2001 @ \$7,750

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-15



Scattered dark toning around devices
 Small cut in outer left shield line below L
 Small gouges in Liberty's right elbow
 Scrape in field below star 9
 Small gouge on upper left loop of the 8

Attractive toning
 Mark on scroll edge below (TRU)S(T)
 Vertical mark on olive leaf #5

Grade: XF40

Certified: PCGS XF40 #46214318

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
 ex-Stack's Bowers Spring 2023 Auction 3/22/2023:4189 @ \$4,560
 ex-James Allaire Millholland Collection

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-16



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Scattered marks in left and right fields, notably by Liberty's right shin and to the right of star 2

Scratch thru shield and above (HAL)F

Grade: XF40

Certified: PCGS XF40 #13885198

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions 2/20/2020:3072 @ \$6,600

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-17



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Black debris at Liberty's right knee
Old horizontal scratch in the field between
Liberty's right forearm and star 11
Old scratch to the left of cap

Black debris around arrowheads
Large gouge on the middle arrowhead
Scattered marks notably below eagle's beak

Grade: VF35

Certified: PCGS VF35 #38172839
ex-PCGS VF35 #28891707

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

JBN PCGS Registry Set

ex-Heritage Auctions 12/5/2019:3111 @ \$4,320

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature 1/9/2019:3483 @ \$5,040

ex-Heritage Auctions Summer FUN U.S. Coins Signature Sale 7/10/2014:3759 @ \$6,462.50

ex-Big Sky Collection of Half Dollars

ex-Heritage Auctions 8/14/2009:3510 @ \$3,720

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-18



Attractive toning
Small scratch to left of rock

Attractive toning

Grade: VF30

Certified: PCGS VF35 #25683052 **CAC**
ex-PCGS VF30 #30957801

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Todd Mazzola Half Dollar Collection
ex-Harry Laibstain coin stock 7/18/2015 @ \$8,250 (PCGS VF35 **CAC**)
ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Expo U.S. Coins Signature 6/4/2015:3980 @ \$7,637.50
(PCGS VF30)
ex-Dr. Harry Salyards Collection
ex-JJ Teaparty 9/1999
ex-Drawbridge Coin Show, unknown dealer, 9/1999

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-19



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Light golden toning
Marks on Liberty's chest
Many scattered field marks
Scratch from left wrist towards star 1
Scratch from drapery to star 11

Light golden toning
Many field marks

Grade: VF30

Certified: PCGS VF30 #04779339

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions Rosemont (CSNS) Signature Coin Auction 4/16/2008:1141 @ \$7,475
ex-Lowell Yoder¹ Family Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note:

1. Lowell Yoder (1930-2023) was a LSCC member and half dollar collector who lived in Ohio.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-20



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Scratch thru rock
Small dig left of rock support

Scratch above (H)AL(F)

Grade: VF35

Certified: PCGS VF35 #21571359

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-GFRC online sale 8/2012 @ \$7,000

ex-New Jersey Collection

ex-Heritage Auctions U.S. Coins Signature Auction – Pittsburgh 10/13/2011:3753 @ \$6,325

ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins pricelist 7/26/2011 (with Harry X Boosel auction flip¹) @ \$8,750

ex-Floyd Farley² Half Dollar Collection

ex-MANA Auction 10/1966 (as shown in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #16 **Discovery Coin #3**)

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note:

1. What happened to the Boosel auction flip? It was not with the Heritage 2011 auction (?). DORC had it in 2011 a few months before the Heritage auction.
2. Floyd Farley was a long-time half dollar collector specializing mostly in Bust half dollars (BHNC #006). He also accumulated hoards of rarer date Liberty Seated half dollars such as 1870-CC and 1842-O small date.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-21



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Twin tiny gouges in the field between Liberty's shin and stars 12-13

Roughness in field to left of eagle's left wing
Dig on D(OL)

Grade: VF30

Certified: PCGS VF30 #32446428
ex-PCGS VF30 #30918723

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Expo Signature Auction 9/20/2015:3937 @ \$4,935

ex-Richard Jewell Collection

ex-Stack's Bowers August 2013 Chicago ANA (including the sale of the Richard Jewell Collection of Half Dollars) 8/20/2013:4220 @ \$DNS (\$5,900 bid)

ex-Richard Jewell Collection¹

ex-Heritage Auctions 9/17/2015:3937 @ \$4,935

ex-Heritage Auctions 4/26/2015:4501 @ \$5,581.25

ex-Stack's Sale of the Samuel Bergard and Treasure Coins of the S.S. New York Collection 7/27/2008:4333 @ \$9,200

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note:

¹ Richard Jewell (1945-2024) was a long-time half dollar collector, member of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists, and editor of the PAN's *Clarion* magazine.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-22



Scratches thru Liberty's gown and right ankle
 Numerous marks in all fields
 Mark in field by Liberty's right fingers
 Two small gouges in Liberty's lap

Numerous marks in all fields notably below
 the scroll letters (T)RU(ST)
 Vertical gash thru arrow feathers
 Scrapes in field below eagle's left wing

Grade: VF30

Certified: PCGS VF30 #06640838
 ex-PCGS VF30 #04940990
 ex-ANACS VF30 # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Great Collections Online Auction 3/8/2029:2076281 @ \$DNS (starting bid \$6,400). Relisted
 for 3/22/2026: \$DNS. Relisted again and sold 4/5/2026 @ \$6,756 (starting bid \$5,400)

ex-2025 FUN show bourse 1/10/2025 (seen and imaged by Dennis Fortier)

ex-GFRC online pricelist 9/2022 @ \$5,500 (Cumberland County Collection) (Price reduction)

ex-GFRC online pricelist 3/14/2022 @ \$6,500 (Cumberland County Collection)

ex-Cumberland County (PA) Collection

ex-Heritage Auctions Chicago Signature U.S. Coins and Platinum Night Auction
 8/11/2011:3998 @ \$7,475 (PCGS #06640838)

ex-Lynn Orso private sale to John Gervasoni, 3/2006 @ \$6,500 (PCGS #04940990)

ex-Russell Prinzinger private sale to Lynn Orso, 2005 @ \$ Unknown (ANACS VF30)

ex-David Pike private sale to Russell Prinzinger, 1996 @ \$ Unknown

Photo credit: GFRC.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-23



Toning on lower 1/3rd of the obverse¹

Toning thru legend¹

Grade: VF25

Certified: VF25

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Kamal M. Ahwash

ex-Paramount Grand Central Auction 11/3/1979:1402 @ \$90 (3-coin lot), *Gobrecht Journal*

Issue #18 **Discovery Coin #9**

Photo credit: scan from *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #18, p17.

Note:

1. Specific identification markers are difficult as the photographs are of poor quality.
2. Kam Ahwash cherry picked this coin in the Paramount auction. It was not included in his estate sale of Kagin's 332nd Sale, 2/2-4/1984, so he must have sold it to a client. To my knowledge, it has not shown up since then.
3. Kamal M. Ahwash (1924-1983) was a founder and the first president of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. He was a columnist with "Kam's Korner" on Liberty Seated coins for *Coin World* and co-editor of *The Gobrecht Journal*. He authored the *Encyclopedia of United States Liberty Seated Dimes* in 1977. His profile spans numismatics, the arts including opera and movies, and his legacy still influences much of the study of Liberty Seated coinage. Those of us who were fortunate to know him remember his enthusiasm for Liberty Seated coinage, always helpful demeanor, great smile, and sense of humor. My last recollection of Kam was at a New Carrollton, MD coin show when he was talking to me and "showering" me with the snickers bar he was consuming.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-24



Dark spot in and on right field from knee

Small mark on H(ALF) and in the field below
the leftmost claw
Small mark below the olive stem

Grade: VF25

Certified: NGC VF25 #3699434-001

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Pennsylvania Collector

ex-Dick Osburn price list, 12/2004 \$5,750

ex-Heritage Auctions Dallas Signature Sale, 12/9/2004:6097 @ \$5,175

ex-Premier Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement, 10/2004 @ \$5,500

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-25

	
Many field marks Dig near star 12	Many field marks Cut below eagle's left wing near olive leaf #5
Grade: VF25	Certified: PCGS VF25 #27238569 ex-NGC VF25 #3605529-001
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown Collector ex-Scotsman Coins Collectors' Auction 11/3/2017:875 @ \$5,750 (PCGS) ex-Zodiac Collection ex-Heritage Auctions CSNS U.S. Coins Signature Auction 4/24/2013:2202 @ \$5,287.50 (PCGS)¹ ex-Heritage Auctions ANA Money Show U.S. Coins Signature Auction 10/18/2012:4386 @ \$5,287.50 (NGC)	
Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com	

Note:

¹ This coin's certification was crossed from NGC to PCGS circa 2012-2013.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-26



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Attractive tan toning
Scruffy fields
Wavy scratch near star 1

Attractive tan toning
Scruffy fields
Black spot above scroll's G(OD)

Grade: VF20

Certified: PCGS VF20 #30621444

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Private Half Dollar Collection
ex-Heritage Auctions 2/22/2018:3905 @ \$5,520
ex-Merrill Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-27



Noticeable cut in rim at K-1 to Liberty's cap Rim toning at stars 1-2 Rim toning at Liberty's foot	Rim toning below HALF
Grade: VF20	Certified: PCGS VF20 #3438882 ¹ ex-PCGS VF20 #3438882 "Bass"
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-Jack Beymer <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 11/2003 thru 7/2006 @ \$6,350 (PCGS VF20 with "Bass" on the holder) ex-Northeast Numismatics <i>Coin World</i> advertisement 4/30/2001 @ \$4,850 (without images) ex-Heritage Rare Coins pricelist 1/19/2001 @ \$5,300 (PCGS VF20 with Bass on holder) ex-Bowers and Merena Sale of the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection Part I, 5/1999:2020 @ \$3,450 (Uncertified graded F12) ex-Harry W. Bass, Jr. Collection ex-Goliad Corporation for Harry W. Bass ex-Gobrecht Journal Issue #16 Discovery Coin #2 ex-RARCOA Central States Society 1972 Convention Sale of the Harry X Boesel 1873 Collection 4/28-30/1972:723 @ \$210 to Harry W. Bass ex-Harry X Boesel Collection (second occurrence) ex-RARCOA Coin Auction Catalogue including the Sale of the Newton Collection 1/16/1971:320 @ \$100 to Harry X Boesel ex-General M. S. Newton (Boesel traded this coin to Newton for an 1873 Closed 3 quarter)	

Continued on next page

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-27 (Continued)

ex-Harry X Boosel Collection (his 2nd known example of this variety)
ex-*Coin World* advertisement (date unknown) @ \$20

Photo credit: Scan of Bowers and Merena Bass auction catalogue

Note:

1. Graded F12 and uncertified in the 1999 Bass auction catalogue, this coin was likely later submitted to PCGS for grading and authentication where it received a VF20 grade with the Bass pedigree (see image at right). It was likely again submitted for grade reconsideration and did not upgrade but lost the Bass pedigree because the PCGS database does not mention the “Bass” pedigree.
2. This coin was Harry X Boosel’s “second specimen.”



1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-28



Scruffy fields
Small mark in the field to right of drapery and
in the field to the right of Liberty's shin

Scruffy fields especially below the eagle's
beak
Mark thru the scroll's (TR)UST

Grade: VF20

Certified: PCGS VF20 #38222188

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-GFRC online offering 11/2020 @ \$5,150

ex-Stack's Bowers November 2019 Baltimore Auction 11/20/2019:7286 @ \$3,360

ex-E. Horatio Morgan Collection

Photo credit: PCGS.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-29



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Dark toning

Diagonal scratch across Liberty and the shield
Scattered marks in the right field

Dark toning

Horizontal gouge below olive stem

Grade: VF20

Certified: NGC VF20 #4883782-003

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Vern Pitman Half Dollar Collection

ex-American Coin and Stamp, Clifton, NJ 2019 @ \$5,350

ex-Heritage Auctions 4/25/2019:3528 @ \$2,640

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-30



Cleaned Small dig in upper horizontal shield lines Abrasions in right field right of knee	Cleaned Hairline under eagle's beak
Grade: VF20	Certified: Raw VF20
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-Rich Uhrich Rare Coins 1/2008	
Photo credit: Bill Bugert	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-31



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Dark stain on Liberty's right calf
Old vertical scratch on Liberty's chest/legs

Black spot to left of the eagle's left wingtip

Grade: F15

Certified: PCGS F15 #20628115¹ **CAC**
ex-PCGS F12 #04954077

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions New York U.S. Coins Signature Auction 12/8/2011:3622 @ \$6,037.50 (as PCGS #2068115 **CAC**)

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature U.S. Coin Auction 9/9/2011:4026 @ \$5,750 (as PCGS #04954077)

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note.

¹ This coin was upgraded and reholdered in the Fall 2011 from PCGS F12 to PCGS F15.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-32



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Several cuts in the right obverse field
Cuts in the shield and on Liberty

Small scratch from eagle's left wing thru
ST(ATES)
Cut in the eagle's left wing to shield

Grade: F15

Certified: ANACS SWH F15 #298920

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Roy Ash Half Dollar Collection
ex-Heritage Auctions 7/15/2022:3735 @ \$6,000
ex-Alan H. Goldman Collection
ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature Auction 6/2/2005:6274 @ \$4,312.50
ex-Empire State Collection
ex-Alpine Numismatics *Coin World* advertisement 5/16/1994 @ \$2,950

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-33



Even gray toning
Small dig in field between star 1 and Liberty's
left wrist

Even gray toning
Dark toning along rim above (AM)ERICA

Grade: F12

Certified: PCGS F12 #16618887

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Bill Bugert Half Dollar Reference Collection¹
ex-Atlanta Coin Show bourse, Palmetto Galleries (Larry Pyles and Associates), Irmo, SC,
11/22/1980 @ \$35

Photo credit: PCGS.com

Note:

¹ I found this half dollar unattributed at the Atlanta show bourse a year after the 1873 No Arrows Open 3 half dollar article appeared in the *Gobrecht Journal* (Issue #16). I reported it with photos to the Liberty Seated Collectors Club immediately in November 1980, but it was never tallied in the initial finds of this variety. I submitted it for PCGS authentication and grading in March 2010.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-34



Dirty fields
Fingerprint in left obverse field

Many marks in fields
Scratch from lower right serif of (AMERIC)A
towards the eagle's right wing

Grade: F12

Certified: PCGS F12 #22023914 (Series holder)

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Great Collections Auction 5/3/2026:2117040 @ \$5,186

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature 1/9/2019:3482 @ \$4,080

ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins website offering, 2/2007 @ \$5,900

ex-Heritage Auctions Central States Signature 4/27/2006:2017 @ \$4,312.50

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature 2/11/2006:1299 @ \$DNS

ex-Delaware Valley *Coin World* advertisement 10/2005 @ \$4,850

ex-L&C Coins *Numismatic News* and *Coin World* advertisements, 6/1998 @ \$4,200

ex-Heritage Auctions *Coin World* advertisement, 2/1995 @ \$4,500

ex-Heritage Auctions Bullet Sale #126 12/1994 @ \$2,503

ex-Maryland Coin Exchange pricelist, 9/1994 @ \$2,500

ex-Brian Greer Rare Coins price lists, 4/1994 thru 6/1994 @ \$2,300 and POR

ex-Brian Greer Rare Coins, 4/1994 cherry-pick in West Virginia

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-35



Even gray toning
Slight rim bump at K-3:30
Few marks in field left of date

Even gray toning
Scattered marks under eagle's left wing
Circular stain just above eagle's right wing
Two small marks above H(ALF)

Grade: VG

Certified: PCGS VG08 #56560885

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins online auction 2-15-2026:868104 @ \$5,250 (PCGS)

ex-Scotsman Coins Midwest Summer Auction 7/19/2024:758 @ \$DNS (unholdered)

Photo credit: Scoins.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-36



Two small gouges in the field to the right of the date
Two small scratches in the field to the left of the date
Gouge from rim at K-12 to star 8
White spot between stars 10-11

Tiny hit below eagle's break

Grade: F12

Certified: Raw
ex-PCGS F15 # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Scotsman Midwest Summer Sale 7/29/2011:705 @ \$4,255 (unholdered)
ex-Stack's Bowers May 2012 John J. Ford Jr. XVIII & Henry Leon Sales 5/22/2007:8812 @ \$5,175
ex-Stack's Bowers March 2007 Brooklyn Sale & John J. Ford Jr. XVIII Baltimore Auction 3/21/2007:888 @ \$DNS (PCGS)
ex-John J. Ford Jr. Collection
ex-American Numismatic Rarities pricelist 9/1/2006 @ \$5,550
ex-Stack's Numismatic Sun Fall/Winter 2006 pricelist @ \$5,550

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-37



Noticeable scratch from dentils at K-8 to rock

Scratch in field above (H)ALF

Grade: F12 (Listed as VG08 in Superior Sale)

Certified: Raw

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #49 11/1990 @ \$3,500

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #47 03/1990 @ \$3,500

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #46 11/1989 @ \$3,500

ex-Jim O'Donnell¹

ex-Superior Galleries The Blevins/Bodway Collections Sale 6/5/1988:5877 @ \$2,090

Photo credit: Scan of Bill Bugert's 1989 35mm photographs

Note:

¹ Jim O'Donnell won this coin in the Superior Sale. I borrowed it overnight at a Baltimore Show (1989), imaged it, and took measurements: diameter=1.202" and weight=189.0 grains.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-38



Quality images not available

Scattered toning Dark spot along Liberty's left arm Dark spot in the right field near right wrist	Toning thru the legend
Grade: Fine	Certified: Raw Fine
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u>	
Unknown collector ex-Stack's Americana Public Auction Sale 1/21/2004:3779 @ \$2,800	
Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-39



Dig in field by drapery
Toned

Old scratch thru (STATE)S OF
Toned

Grade: VG10

Certified: PCGS VG10 #20525380 **CAC**
ex-ANACS SWH VG08 # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Coast to Coast Coins online pricelist, 10/4/2011:135787 @ \$4,950

ex-Goldberg Auctioneers Pre-Long Beach Auction, 8/6/2011:1270 @ \$3,565 (PCGS)

ex-Superior The Premier Auction Sale, 1/1995:812 @ \$2,090 (ANACS)

ex-Jack Beymer *Coin World* advertisement, 8/1990 @ \$3,350

Photo credit: goldbergauctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-40



Brown debris on Liberty's left breast
Small dig on 1(873)
Small dig in field to right of drapery

Dig in field under the eagle's neck; others
below the olive leaf stem and above (HA)LF

Grade: VG10

Certified: PCGS VG10 #51055506 CAC

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Tennessee Two Step Half Dollar Collection
ex-Heritage Auctions 4/4/2025:3299 @ \$6,017.14

Photo credit: PCGS.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-41



Rim bruises @ K-2,5,6,7
Vertical staple scratch thru upper shield

Minor edge wear at K-7

Grade: VG08

Certified: ANACS VG details # Unknown
"Damaged"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Miller's Mint *Numismatic News* advertisement, 1/2002 @ \$2,950

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #57 7/1993 @ \$2,650

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #49 11/1990 @ \$2,750

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #47 03/1990 @ \$2,700

ex-Jim O'Donnell advertisement *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #46 11/1989 @ \$2,650

ex-Randy Wiley private sale to Jim O'Donnell, 7/1988 @ \$1,700

ex-Coin Galleries 5/20/1987:1706 \$562 (in a 2-coin lot) to Randy Wiley

Photo credit: Scan of Bill Bugert's 1989 35mm photographs

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-42



Old shallow vertical scratch thru Liberty's
chest to left leg

Light roughness
Scattered black spots

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS VG08 #05235598 OGH

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins Internet Auction 7/4/2021:4081 @ \$4,900

ex-JJ Teaparty online pricelist 3/2010 @ \$5,500

ex-JJ Teaparty online pricelist 6-8/2009 @ \$5,995

ex-Brian Greer pricelist 10/1996-1/1997 @ \$1,975

Photo credit: Davidlawrence.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-43



Short scratch in the field between Liberty's
right knee and star 13
Horizontal staple scratch across the shield and
rock
Slightly scruffy right field

Small gouges in field on both sides of the
eagle's neck
Black dot on the back of the eagle's neck

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS VG08 #30857399

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions 1/8/2015:4954 @ \$4,230

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-44



Attractive dark toning
Wavy line between stars 1-2 to Liberty's left hand
Dirt on rim at K-8 by star 1 and on Liberty's foot

Attractive dark toning
Small shallow scratch above H(ALF)

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS VG08 #43136456

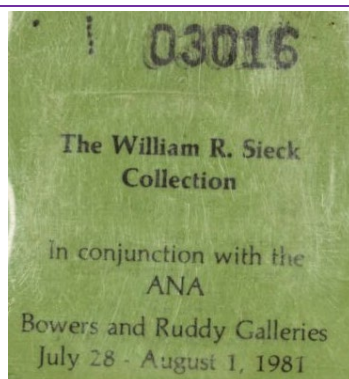
Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-eBay offering by shhheve, 3/7/2022 @ \$4,500 with Sieck auction flip (see below)
ex-Bowers and Ruddy Galleries William R. Sieck Collection 8/1/1981:3016 @ \$1,100

Photo credit: PCGS.com

Note:



1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-45

   Certificate Number 43136457 Verify the authenticity of this image at PCGS.com/cert	
Rough area under Liberty's chin Black spot along dentils at K-4	Deep scratch from the eagle's right wing thru (AMERICA)A Black spot on the eagle's left wing
Grade: VG08	Certified: PCGS VG08 #43136457
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Joseph Lucy Half Dollar Collection ex-acquired circa 2019-2020, details unknown	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-46



Attractive even wear, few marks
Small dig below star 5
Two small pinpricks by star 3

Attractive even wear, few marks
Debris on the eagle's left wing and on shield's horizontal stripes

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS VG08 #21636602
ex-NGC G06 #4885011-005

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector
ex-Heritage Auctions Sale of the Poulos Family Collection 9/6/2019:4759 @ \$3,000
ex-Poulos Family Collection
ex-Dick Osburn Rare Coins website offering, 1/2007 @ \$4,950
ex-Duncan Lee *Coin World* advertisement, 1/2007 @ \$4,350
ex-Heritage Auctions Central States Sale, 4/2006:2016 @ \$DNS
ex-Duncan Lee *Coin World* advertisement, 10/2005 @ \$4,900
ex-Goldberg Pre-Long Beach Sale 9/2005:1721 @ \$3,910
ex-Goldberg Pre-Long Beach Sale 2/23/2005:1268 @ \$3,105
ex-Ed Hipps private sale to Lynn Ourso, 2003 @ \$2,000

Photo credit: Goldbergauctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-47



Quality images not available

Diagonal black debris across Liberty's gown to rim at K-3-5

Toned

Grade: VG08

Certified: NGC VG08 #1656189-001

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature Sale 9/19/2003:7081 @ \$2,300

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-48



Quality images not available

Dark toning in left and lower right fields Scattered marks in right field possibly where a cleaning attempt was made Few marks left of date	Reverse image unavailable
Grade: VG10	Certified: Raw
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-eBay listing johnny_vdara, Henderson, NV 9/15/2012:271058231757 @ \$1,723.55	
Photo credit: Scan of partial eBay.com listing	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-49



Quality images not available

Rough surfaces
Toning around date

No image available

Grade: VG08

Certified: Raw

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-eBay offering in an unattributed two-coin lot circa 2024 @ \$232.47

Photo credit: Unknown eBay user.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-50



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Twin parallel scratches from Liberty's right knee into field towards star 11
Many field marks

Tiny mark near eagle's right wing tip

Grade: G06

Certified: Unknown
ex-PCGS G06 #9766349

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions Baltimore Signature U.S. Coin Auction 3/29/2009:2073 @ \$2,990

ex-Dick Osburn pricelist 11/1998 @ \$2,650

ex-Jack Beymer pricelist #175, 6/1996 @ \$2,400

ex-Jack Beymer pricelist #171, 8/1995 @ \$3,100

ex-Jack Beymer *Coin World* advertisement, 9/1994 @ \$3,100

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-51



Cleaned Small rim nicks at K-6 and 6:30 Partial fingerprint on shield Question mark shaped residue by Liberty's left shoulder	Cleaned Dark staining at K-7 Small scratches above eagle's left wing
Grade: VG08	Certified: Raw VG08
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Private collector ex-Harry Smith, 9/2025, \$4,500	
Photo credit: Jeremy Eaton	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-52



Small old scratch along dentils below star 13
Few scattered marks in right field
Old hairline scratch from drapery to the dentils
between star 12-13

Roughness between olive leaves and dentils
Heavy rim ding at K-8 not seen in the photo

Grade: G06

Certified: ANACS holder G04 # Unknown
ANACS certificate G04 # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Stack's 72nd Anniversary Sale 10/16/2007:5118 @ \$3,047.50

ex-Superior Adams and McMillen Sale 10/1992:525 @ \$2,310 (ANACS holder)

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement, 8/1991 @ \$2,250

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Gobrecht Journal* advertisement Issue #51, 7/1991 @ \$2,250

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Gobrecht Journal* advertisement Issue #50, 3/1991 @ \$2,250

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Gobrecht Journal* advertisement Issue #49, 11/1990 @ \$2,250

ex-Numismatic Investments of Florida, Aventura, FL

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

Note: This coin is the G06 plate coin in the following publication:

Yeoman, R.S. A Guide Book of United States Coins, Mega Red, Expanded Deluxe Edition. 4th Edition. Pelham, AL: Whitman Publishing, 2018, p.776

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-53



Old scratch in Liberty's rock support and gown
above (187)3
Old digs near star 6

Noticeable rim bump at K-8
Surface roughness around eagle's head
Old scratches thru HALF DOL

Grade: G04

Certified: ANACS SWH G04 #EX3863

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-David Lawrence Internet Rare Coin Auction 8/18/2024:8312 @ \$3,450

Photo credit: Davidlawrence.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-54

   Certificate Number 44540328 Verify the authenticity of this image at PCGS.com/cert	
Small cut on Liberty's right knee Old scratch from star 2 to Liberty's left wrist	Dark toning Small gouge thru O(F)
Grade: G06	Certified: PCGS G06 #44540328
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-Heritage Auctions CSNS U.S. Coins Signature Auction 4/29-5/2/2026:3806 @ \$3,782 ex-Elizabeth Coggan Numismatics Online offering 5/2025 @ \$4,150	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-55



Old dig in field between 8 and cap
Black residue on Liberty

Curved dig in eagle's left wing
Rim nick at K-1

Grade: G06

Certified: PCGS G06 #02732516

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Stack's Sale of The Rich Uhrich Collection 2/27/2008:3303 @ \$4,025

ex-Rich Uhrich Collection

ex-American Numismatic Rarities Sale of The Haig A. Koshkarian Collection 3/9/2004:611 @ \$3,105

ex-Haig A. Koshkarian Collection

ex-Heritage Auction Long Beach Bullet Sale 2/24/2001:287 @ \$2,070

ex-Heritage Auction website offering, 12/2000:3384 @ \$DNS

Photo credit: PCGS.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-56



Scruffy right fields
Small mark to left of Liberty's left wrist

Scattered marks between eagle and scroll
Tiny dig above (HA)L(F)

Grade: VG08

Certified: PCGS VG08 #5360016

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Stack's Bowers Rare Coins Spring 2022 Baltimore bourse 4/2022 @ \$5,300 (seen by Dennis Fortier)

ex-eBay offering by West Coast Coins Oregon on 3/2022 @ \$5,750

ex-Stack's Bowers August 2014 ANA Auction 8/12/2014:4090 @ \$3,290

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-57

	
Quality images not available	
Silver gray with coppery tone near the top Dark spot in shield? Mark adjacent to stars 11-12	Light scratches near (UN)ITED
Grade: VG08	Certified: PCGS VG08 # Unknown
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-Bowers and Merena Rarities Sale, 7/2002:322 @ \$2,530 ex-Martin's Rare Coins <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 9/1998 @ \$2,950 ex-National Gold <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 11/1996 @ \$2,950 ex-Heritage Auctions <i>Coin World</i> advertisement, 5/1994 @ \$3,450	
Photo credit: Scan from Bower and Merena Rarities catalogue	

Note:

1. Some of the listed coin identifiers were as listed in the Bowers and Merena auction lot listing.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-58



Small gouge on Liberty's left shoulder
 Small scratch in the field to the left of Liberty's right upper arm
 Small gouge to the left of Liberty's right hand

Small nick on crotch formed by olive branch and arrow feathers
 Small line in the field behind the eagle's neck

Grade: G04

Certified: PCGS G04 #38188502 **CAC**
 ex-NGC G04 #3129397-004

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Matt Mayers Half Dollar Collection
 ex-Heritage Auctions, U.S. Coins Signature Auction, 12/6/2019:3841 @ \$2,880
 ex-Spring Creek Collection
 ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature Auction 5/28/2008:701 @ \$3,220
 ex-Lowell Yoder¹ Family Collection

Photo credit: PCGS.com

Note:

1. Lowell Yoder (1930-2023) was a LSCC member and half dollar collector who lived in Ohio.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-59



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Small rim ding at K-5
Vertical marks to left of date
Scratch thru star 12
Numerous marks in left and right fields

Small dig above eagle's left wing
Small lump of dirt below D(OL)

Grade: G06

Certified: PCGS G06 #54299865
ex-ANACS G06 SWH #448077

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Reeded Edge Inc. pricelist, 12/2025 @ \$4,250 (PCGS holder); concurrently listed on eBay by Reeded Edge Reserve Equity Fund at the same price (item # 358023750744). Reduced on Reeded Edge website to \$3,750 on 12/24/2025. Raised back to \$4,250 late 12/2025, then reduced again to \$3,875 on 1/20/2026. Reduced to \$3,500 on 3/5/2026. (PCGS holder)

ex-Heritage Auctions 11/202/2020:3586 @ \$2,878.80 (ANACS holder)

ex-Earl Engel Collectibles Auction, 10/1994 @ \$2,700

ex-likely Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #37 advertisement 11/1986 @ \$POR

ex-Harry Smith (he reported this coin with images in *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #36, 7/1986, **Discovery Coin #11**). He purchased it from a collector in the Pacific Northwest who found it unattributed in a group of half dollars.

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-60



Circular stain on Liberty and in the right field
Old scratch on Liberty's lower gown and
across the instep of the right foot
Black spots on Liberty above the shield

Double black spots near eagle's left wingtip

Grade: G04

Certified: ANACS SWH G04 #580161

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Great Collections Auction 5/18/2025:1799592 @ \$2,822.62

Photo credit: Great Collections.com

873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-61

****USA 1873 HALF DOLLAR - NO ARROWS - OPEN 3****
No: F-2752-I Size: 30.6mm Grade: G4/4
Registered to: JEROME E. MOSCINSKI 11-20-84



Dark toning on lower portion of the obverse
and at K-1
Small marks in left field

Dark toning on most of the reverse
Small marks below the eagle's left wing near
the olive leaves

Grade: G04

Certified: G04 ANACS Certificate #F-2752-I

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Dick Osburn Price List 12/1999 @ \$2,150

ex-Jerry Moscinski private sale to Dick Osburn 11/1999

ex-Jerry Moscinski Half Dollar Collection (1984) (ANACS certificate certified)

ex-Rapid City, SD coin show bourse summer 1984 @ \$100 (raw)

Photo credit: scan of ANACS certificate photocopy from Jerry Moscinski

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-62



Small scratch at star 10
Small mark in the field near Liberty's right knee

Arching dark toning ring on reverse

Grade: G04

Certified: PCGS G04 #33262354

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Private Half Dollar Collection
ex-Aurora Coins pricelist 12/2007 @ \$3,950

Photo credit: Paul Bradley

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-63



Quality images not available

Dark stain on Liberty, shield, and rim from K-3 to K-8 Weak rims on lower obverse	No image available
Grade: G06	Certified: Raw G06
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u>	
Unknown collector ex-eBay listing by nikkishop44 2/13/2008 Buy-It-Now @ \$1,200	
Photo credit: scan of listing from eBay.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-64

	
Even wear Small gouge in shield Black spots along rim at K-8	Even wear Scattered black spots along tops of letters AMERICA Black spot in field under eagle's left wing
Grade: AG03	Certified: PCGS AG03 #27458457
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Dennis Fortier Half Dollar Collection ex-eBay offering 4/2017 @ \$2,400	
Photo credit: Bill Bugert	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-65



Even wear
Numerous fine lines along rim at K-12
Staple scratch vertically thru shield

Even wear
Rim marks at K-1, K-6, and K-8

Grade: AG03

Certified: PCGS AG03 #40493940

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

West Coast (Mike Perkins) Half Dollar Collection
ex-unknown

Photo credit: Mike Perkins

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-66



Quality images not available

Diagonal dark stain thru Liberty
Dirt residue along rim at K-1 to K-3

Dark spot below eagle's neck and along the
left wing
Numerous dark residues along rims

Grade: AG03

Certified: NGC AG03 # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Superior Elite Coin Auction, 11/2003:562 @ \$DNS
ex-Nevada Collection

Photo credit: Scan of Superior's 11/2003 catalogue

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-67



Attractive toning Black debris by star 5 Few light pin scratches on Liberty	Attractive toning Black debris at ST(ATES) and along UNITED
Grade: Fr02	Certified: PCGS Fr02 #38794342 CAC ex-ANACS AG03 # Unknown
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Private Collector's Half Dollar Collection ex-GFRC online sale, 5/2024 @ \$2,500 (Newtown Collection) ex-Aaron Heintz Half Dollar Collection (Newtown Collection) ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Expo U.S. Coins Signature Auction 2/23/2020:7372 @ \$1,680 (PCGS holder) ex-McDonald Family Collection ex-Stack's Bowers March 2007 Brooklyn Sale & John J. Ford Jr. XVIII Baltimore Auction 3/21/2007:889 @ \$1,265 (ANACS holder) ex-John J. Ford Jr. Collection	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

Note:

1. This coin is listed in CoinFacts and was the plate coin for the AG03 grade in Q. David Bowers' *A Guidebook of Liberty Seated Silver Coins* (p. 332).
2. This coin is also the AG03 plate coin in the following publication: Yeoman, R.S. *A Guide Book of United States Coins, Mega Red, Expanded Deluxe Edition*. 4th Edition. Pelham, AL: Whitman Publishing, 2018, p.776.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-68



Attractive toning Dark spot on Liberty's right shin	Attractive toning Deep gouge at the right end of the scroll into the eagle's right wing
Grade: Fr02	Certified: PCGS Fr02 #51151904 ¹ ex-PCGS Fr02 #49427337

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
 ex-Coinfinders on Collectors Corner 3/2026 @ \$2,700 (concurrently listed on eBay @ \$3,100)
 ex-DLRC online pricelist 9/1/2025 @ \$2,250
 ex-DLRC Internet Auction #234 8/31/2025:5258 @ \$DNS (starting bid \$2,250)
 ex-Elizabeth Coggan Numismatics Online Offering 6/2025 @ \$1,995 (concurrently offered on eBay by Liz for \$2,263.53)
 ex-"Tennessee Two Step Collection"
 ex-West Coast Coins pricelist 1/2025 @ \$2,550
 ex-date unknown sale by deseretcollectables on Instagram (in foreign language)

Photo credit: PCGS.com

Note:

1. When querying the PCGS database for #51151904, the correct data is listed for this coin, but the TrueView image has holder # 49427337 shown. The image shown is correct for this coin although an older slab number is displayed.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-69



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Wear into tops of stars
Shallow scratch in field from right shin

Wear into tops of legend and denomination
Roughness below scroll's right end

Grade: Fr02

Certified: NGC Fr02 #3314999-013 **CAC**

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector
ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach U.S. Coins Signature Auction 5/31/2012:3834 @ \$1,840

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-70



Heavily worn
Small mark near Liberty's right hand
Open 3 is clear

Heavily worn
Possible rim bump at K-6
Dark toning on upper left quadrant

Grade: Pr01

Certified: Raw Pr01

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins Catalogue #2 offering, 4/1995 @ \$475

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement, 10/1994 @ \$445

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement, 12/1992 @ \$675

ex-Larry Briggs Rare Coins *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #55 advertisement, 11/1992 @ \$745

ex-Bowers and Merena Witham and Sancoucy Sale, 9/1992:579 @ \$468

ex-Coin Galleries Mail Bid Sale 2/13/1991:2193 @ \$875 (as Fr02)

ex-Coin Galleries Mail Bid Sale 2/12/1986:2180 @ \$137.50 (unplated)

Photo credit: scan of 1991 Coin Galleries auction catalog

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-71



Horizontal gash on Liberty' jawline
Gouge on Liberty's upper left arm
Scattered marks on Liberty

Scattered marks on letters HALF DOL.

Grade: AU55 Details

Certified: Raw AU55 Details
ex-NGC AU Details #2115983-002

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Gold Standards Auctions 3/19/2025:301963 @ \$5,000 (as raw MS61)

ex-Great Collections Auction 10/10/2021:1058011 @ \$DNS (\$6,500 reserve) (as NGC AU Details)

Photo credit: Gold Standards Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-72



Mark in field between Liberty's right arm and star 11
 Stain on rim into date @ K-6
 Black spot in Liberty's hem line above the 7
 Golden toning around rims

Few small marks under eagle's left wing
 Mark between the right end of scroll and the eagle's neck
 Dirt residue above (STAT)E(S)
 Golden toning around rims

Grade: AU Details

Certified: ANACS AU Details #1368487
 "Net EF40 Cleaned"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector
 ex-David Lawrence Rare Coins Online Auction 7/31/2006 @ \$6,325
 ex-Gobrecht Journal Issue #19 **Discovery Coin #10**
 ex-Pennsylvania collector Bill Orendi Collection (1980)

Photo credit: Scan of printed listing by Davidlawrence.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-73



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Cleaned

Numerous vertical scratches in right field
Digs in rock support above date

Cleaned

Roughness under eagle's right wing
Scratch from scroll to (A)M(ERICA)
Scratch from scroll to (STATE)S
Dig by olive leaf #1

Grade: XF details

Certified: Raw

ex-NGC XF details #3607822-013
"Scratches, Cleaned"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Private Half Dollar Collection

ex-Jack Beymer coin stock, 6/2017 @ \$5,700

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature Auction, 1/9/2014:4521 @ \$1,997.50 (NGC holder)

ex-Papio Collection

ex-Stack's Sale of The Minot Collection, 5/22/2008:1489 @ \$3,450 (unhelder)

ex-The Minot Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-74



Image by NGC Photo Vision – learn more at NGCcoin.com



Image by NGC Photo Vision – learn more at NGCcoin.com

Attractively toned
Numerous scratches in the right field

Attractively toned
Three small dots below eagle's left claw and
olive stem

Grade: VF35 Details

Certified: NGC VF Details #6330920-001
"OBV Scratched"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions 10/9/2022:7098 @ \$1,920

Photo credit: NGCcoin.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-75



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Cleaned

Dirt spot near stars 10 and 13
Black debris thru and above date
Few small marks on Liberty's right arm
Noticeable black spot in left obverse field
Scattered marks in the right field

Cleaned

Small mark behind eagle's neck
Dirt spot in the eagle's feathers below shield

Grade: XF40 Details

Certified: ANACS EF40 Details #2947922

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions buy-now lot 3/2007 @ \$3,864

ex-Heritage Charlotte Money Show Auction #432 3/15/2007:815 @ \$DNS (Reserve @ \$3,360)

ex-Jack Beymer Rare Coins *Coin World* advertisement 5/1991 @ \$7,250

ex-Reginald Byron Mason Half Dollar Collection 5/1991

ex-Larry Briggs private sale to Reg Mason, 5/1991 @ \$5,800

ex-Randy Wiley to Jim O'Donnell @ \$4,600 to Larry Briggs

ex-Christie's Ancient, English and Foreign Coins, Commemorative Medals, and Banknotes

Auction 3/1990:376 @ \$2,860 to Randy Wiley (his inventory 1873 #W-46)

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-76



Much dark residue around devices
Small edge nick at K-7

Much dark residue around devices
Small edge nick at K-12

Grade: VF Details

Certified: NCS VF Details #5200705-001
"Scratched, Damaged"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Bowers and Merena ANA Sale 8/2009:1424 @ \$1,400

ex-Eugene Bruder pricelist 5/13/2009 @ \$2,650

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Signature Auction 5/28/2008:702 @ \$1,495

ex-Lowell Yoder¹ Family Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

Note:

1. Lowell Yoder (1930-2023) was a LSCC member and half dollar collector who lived in Northwest Ohio.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-77



Near vertical short gouge in field between star
2 and Liberty's left forearm
Small gouges in right field below cap and near
star 13
Small gouge on Liberty's drapery
Rim ticks along the rim at K-4 thru K-7

Old gouge under left wing
Rim ding at K-6

Grade: F12 Details

Certified: PCGS Fine Details #45353352
"Damaged"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Great Collections Auction 11/22/2022:1260549 @ \$3,881.25

Photo credit: Great Collections.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-78



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Bullseye toning
Numerous small nicks in fields
Old pin scratch from rim at K-12 to Liberty's
right hand

Small marks in field under the eagle's left
wing

Grade: Fine Details

Certified: NGC Fine Details #36077823-009

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions FUN U.S. Coins Signature Auction 1/9/2014:4520 @ \$3,818.75
ex-Papio Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-79



Porous surfaces Numerous cleaning hairlines and marks Small mark in field near Liberty's nose Marks in Liberty's gown behind right heel	Porous surfaces Scratches thru OF AM(ERICA) Gouge below (D)OL Marks in field above olive leaves
Grade: VG Details	Certified: PCGS VG Details #40777923 "Cleaned"
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-eBay offering by theconsignmentclub on 3/2022 @ \$4,450	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-80



Numerous small marks in the fields
Small scratch in left field from star 2

Numerous small marks in the fields
Small digs in field under eagle's beak

Grade: F15 Details

Certified: ANACS F Details # Unknown

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector

ex-Stack's Bowers Sale of The Franklin Collection Part 2 1/7/2008:507 @ \$3,565

ex-Brian Greer private sale to Terry Lynz-Tom Gutair, 3/2000 @ \$ Unknown

ex-Stuart Jones private sale to Brian Greer, 3/2000 @ \$2,500

ex-Stuart Jones cherry-pick in North Carolina, 3/2000 \$ Unknown (per Stuart's letter to Randy Wiley)

Photo credit: Stack's Bowers.com

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-81

   Certificate Number 50629207 Verify the authenticity of this image at PCGS.com/cert	
Old scratch from Liberty's foot towards star 13	Deep gouge from rim @ K-9 along the U(NITED) into the eagle's left wing tip
Grade: VG details	Certified: PCGS VG details-scratch #50629207
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-eBay offering by Upstate Numismatic Services, Utica NY 3/2025 @ \$4,700	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-82

	
Cleaning hairlines Stain on Liberty's torso and arm Scratches in left field	Cleaning hairlines Small mark above olive leaf #5
Grade: VG Details	Certified: NGC VG Details #4773046-001
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown collector ex-eBay offering by "starcoins" on 3/2022 @ \$4,399 ex-Heritage Auctions ¹	
Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com	

Note:

1. When I was collecting data on this coin, I downloaded images above from the Heritage Auctions database. Subsequently, the listing was removed, and I could not collect the coin's sale information.

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-83



Cleaning hairlines Small pit in right field to right of Liberty's wrist Porosity into field from star 4 Scratch from field thru left edge of the rock support	Cleaning hairlines Porous fields Marks in field below eagle's beak and above (HAL)F DOL
Grade: G06 Details	Certified: PCGS Cleaned G Details #49671260
Cross reference: WB-106	
<u>Known Pedigree Details</u> Unknown Collector ex-Heritage Auctions FUN US Coins Signature Auction 1/14-17/2026:7213 @ \$1,708	
Photo credit: PCGS.com	

1873 No Arrows Open 3 Half Dollar WB-6 BB-84



Hairlines thru right field
Stars 10-13 worn away

Dark spot in recessed area of the shield left
vertical lines
Scratch in lower shield lines

Grade: AG03 details

Certified: ANACS SWH AG03 Details #2953506
"Cleaned"

Cross reference: WB-106

Known Pedigree Details

Unknown collector
ex-Heritage Auctions Dallas Signature Coin Auction 4/9/2007:772 @ \$1,955

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

1873 Closed 3 over Open 3 Comparisons

by
John McCloskey and Bill Bugert

The Closed 3 and Open 3 date styles for 1873 coinage have been known for many years and are extremely popular among collectors. They were even described for half dollars by M. Beistle in his die variety text "A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties and Sub-Varieties" that was published in 1929. He described Obverse 1 for 1873 Philadelphia half dollars as "two knobs of 3 are far apart" and Obverse 2 as "knobs of 3 are closer together." These varieties were occasionally listed in auction catalogues during the 1950s but Harry X Boosel is credited with popularizing them in the 1960s. He published a series of articles describing them for many denominations of US coinage in the Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine in 1957 and 1958 and later published a 64 page booklet on the two date styles in 1960. In this article we will present our theory on how the change from a Closed 3 to an Open 3 date style was implemented.

The early issues of 1873 had a 3 that was almost closed with the knobs nearly touching. In a letter dated January 18, 1873 Chief Coiner Snowden lodged a formal complaint about this defect with Mint Director Pollock. He writes "I desire in a formal manner to direct your attention to the figures used in dating the dies for the present year. They are so heavy, and the space between each so small that upon the smaller gold and silver, and upon the base coins it is almost impossible to distinguish with the naked eye, whether the last figure is an eight or a three." Later on in the same letter he states "I would recommend that an entire new set of figures avoiding the defects of those now in use, be prepared at the earliest possible day." In his encyclopedia Walter Breen indicates that Mint Director Pollock at once ordered the Engraving Department to prepare new date logotypes with an Open 3 for all denominations. The gap between the knobs on the Closed 3 was widened creating the Open 3 logotypes that were used later in the year. Figures 1 and 2 show the differences between the Closed 3 and Open 3 logotypes for 1873 half dollars. Note the difference in the size



Figure 1.
1873 Closed 3 Half Dollar



Figure 2.
1873 Open 3 Half Dollar

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Figure 4 is a photograph of the date of an Open 3 quarter overlaid with a photograph of the date of a Closed 3 quarter. With proper alignment the dates again match up perfectly except for the differences in the knobs of the digit 3. In this case the lower knob has been cut back rather dramatically while the upper knob has been cut back and greatly reduced in size. These revisions have more than doubled the distance between the two knobs of the digit 3. The picture of the date of the 1873 No Arrows Closed 3 quarter was provided by Rich Uhrich Rare Coins, www.richuhrichcoins.com.



Figure 4. 1873 Closed 3 Over Open 3 Quarter

Figure 5 is a photograph of the date of an Open 3 dime overlaid with a photograph of the date of a Closed 3 dime. The dates again match up perfectly except for the differences in the knobs of the 3. The lower knob has been cut back and reduced in size while the upper knob has been cut back to double the distance between the two knobs. Seated dime specialist Gerry Fortin has studied the dime logotypes and confirmed the finding that we have obtained in this article.

All known 1873 Seated dollars were struck from Closed 3 dies. While an Open 3 date logotype was ordered for Seated dollars it is unlikely that this new punch was ever used on this denomination because it was abolished by the Coinage Act of February 12, 1873. This act also created the Trade Dollar and coinage of this new



Figure 5. 1873 Closed 3 Over Open 3 Dime

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of the knobs and the distance between the knobs on the digit 3. For Liberty Seated coinage, both date styles are known for 1873 dimes, quarters and half dollars. All known 1873 half dimes and Seated dollars were struck from Closed 3 dies. It is unlikely that Open 3 dies were used to strike these denominations because both were abolished by the Coinage Act of February 12, 1873 that went into effect on April 1, 1873.

It is generally believed that completely new date logotypes were made to create the Open 3 date styles for each denomination. For the last two years the authors have discussed the possibility that the new logotypes were created by simply grinding down the knobs on the existing logotypes to achieve the desired separation in the final digit. Measurements taken on coins recording the size of the digits, the shape of the digits and the distance between digits seemed to indicate that this was a real possibility. But we knew that we needed stronger evidence for this theory to be accepted by other numismatists. We therefore turned to digital photography and photo processing techniques and overlaid digital photographs of Closed 3 and Open 3 half dollars to see if this theory was plausible. The results of this comparison for half dollars and other Seated denominations will be discussed in the following paragraphs.

Figure 3 is a photograph of the date of an Open 3 half dollar overlaid with a photograph of the date of a Closed 3 half dollar. The photographs have been aligned so that the dates match up as closely as possible. An examination of the photograph shows that the dates match perfectly in size, shape and spacing except for the increased distance between the knobs of the digit 3. The lower knob has been cut back only slightly but the upper knob has been drastically reduced in size to double the distance between the two knobs. The transparency of the two images was digitally adjusted to make the comparison as clear as possible. The difference in date placement in the obverse field is reflected by the two rows of denticles below the date in the photograph. This comparison provides additional evidence to support the theory that the Closed 3 date logotypes could have been modified to create the new Open 3 style. It seems reasonable to suggest that it would be more efficient to remove the excess metal from the existing Closed 3 date punches than to create completely new punches with an Open 3. The Closed 3 punches would no longer be required in the preparation of new dies so it would make sense to modify them for use later in the year.



Figure 3. 1873 Closed 3 Over Open 3 Half Dollar

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denomination began on July 11, 1873. All known 1873 Trade Dollars have a date with an Open 3 and it is unlikely that examples exist with a Closed 3 due to its late production schedule in 1873.

Figure 6 is a photograph of the date of an 1873 Open 3 Trade Dollar overlaid with a photograph of the date of an 1873 Closed 3 Seated dollar. Again the dates match up perfectly except that the lower knob of the digit 3 has been cut back to create the new date logotype. This comparison suggests that the Seated dollar date punch with a Closed 3 was modified to create the Trade Dollar date punch with an Open 3. While we cannot rule out the possibility that an 1873 Open 3 Seated dollar or an 1873 Closed 3 Trade Dollar may exist, it seems very unlikely due to the production schedules of these two denominations in 1873.

Another numismatist has a similar explanation for the Closed 3 and Open 3 varieties. A catalogue for the Ira and Larry Goldberg Sale 39, Pre-Long Beach, CA from February 11, 2007 described Lot #2101, an 1873 Open 3 \$1 gold piece as "coins of 1873 were made with Closed 3 in the date and Open 3 in the date. A quick glance at the 1873 Closed 3 date, made early in the year, resembled 1878, as the knobs on the 3 were close together. The Open 3 was created by filing away most of the bottom knob on the 3 of the date logotype and trimming the knob to a smaller size; dies punched with this modified date logotype are called Open 3."

In "The Macmillan Encyclopedia Directory of Numismatics" published in 1982, Richard G. Doty defines a date logotype as "A number punch with two or more digits, formerly used to place digits on coin dies." He goes on to say that "The date logotype was designed to speed up the production of coinage dies; its operation in the United States extended from approximately 1840 to 1900." The photographic comparisons included with this study provide evidence to show that the date logotypes were modified for at least one year during this period.

This article presents a plausible theory for the origin of the 1873 Open 3 date logotypes. We may never know exactly what happened at the Mint but the Closed 3 date punches were most likely ground down to create the Open 3 punches. With more documentation on coinage operations at the Mint and additional studies on 1873 coinage, we may develop a better understanding of Mint procedures during this year.

We would like to thank Gerry Fortin and Rich Uhrich for their assistance with this article. Comments on the theory described in this article are welcome and should be sent to Bill Bugert at wb8cpcy@aol.net.



Figure 6. 1873 Closed 3 Seated Dollar Over Open 3 Trade Dollar

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Useful References

- Beistle, Martin Luther. A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties and Sub-Varieties. Shippensburg, PA: The Beistle Company, 1929.
- Boosel, Harry X. 1873-1873. Chicago: Hewitt Bros., 1960. (Copy # 471 of 500)
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- Lange, David. Second Variety Discovered for 1873 No Arrows Half Dollar, *Gobrecht Journal* Issue #28, November 1983.
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Abbreviations

ANA	American Numismatic Association
ANACS	American Numismatic Association Certification Service
ANR	American Numismatic Rarities
BB	Bill Bugert
BCCS	Barber Coin Collectors Society
CAC	Certified Acceptance Corporation
CACG	Certified Acceptance Corporation Grading
CSNS	Central States Numismatic Society
D	TPG Details Holder
DNS	Did Not Sell
DORC	Dick Osburn Rare Coins
FPL	Fixed Price List
FUN	Florida United Numismatists
HLRC	Harry Laibstain Rare Coins
JRCS	John Reich Collectors Society
LSCC	Liberty Seated Collectors Club
NA	No Arrows
NCS	Numismatic Conservation Service
NGC	Numismatic Guaranty Corporation
NLG	Numismatic Literary Guild
NK	Slab number not known
O'D	Jim O'Donnell
OGH	(PCGS) Old Green Holder
PCGS	Professional Coin Grading Service
RARCOA	Rare Coin Company of America
RW	Randy Wiley
SEGS	Sovereign Entities Grading Service
SWH	ANACS' small white holder (soapbox)
TPG	Third Party Grade(r)(d)

Bill Bugert's Information

Bill Bugert is a recognized authority on Liberty Seated half dollars who has collected and researched Liberty Seated half dollars since the early-1970s. He and Randy Wiley authored *The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars* (1993) and Bill wrote a series of books documenting all the die marriages for the series, *A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties*, the first six of which have been published.

Volume I - San Francisco Branch Mint

Volume II - Carson City Branch Mint

Volume III - New Orleans Branch Mint (1840-O to 1853-O NA)

Volume IV New Orleans Branch Mint (1853-O WA to 1861-O)

Volume V - Philadelphia Mint (1839-1852)

Volume VI - Philadelphia Mint (1856-1873 NA).

Bill's other books on Liberty Seated half dollars include:

A Register of 1878-S Liberty Seated Half Dollars

A Register of 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date Liberty Seated Half Dollars

A Register of 1873 No Arrows Open 3 Liberty Seated Half Dollars

Liberty Seated Half Dollar Die Marriage Diagrams, Volume I: The Branch Mints



He has authored numerous numismatic research articles and served as a speaker at many local and national numismatic events. Bill presented at the American Numismatic Society's "Coinage of the Americas" Conference in 1986.

He won the following major awards:

- 1992 LSCC James B. Pryor Numismatic Research Award
- 2008 LSCC Kamal M. Ahwash Award
- 2008 John Reich Collectors Society 2008 award
- 2008 Numismatic Bibliomania Society Jack Collin's award
- 2011 Numismatic Literary Guild Extraordinary Merit award
- 2014 Numismatic Literary Guild Extraordinary Merit award
- 2017 Inducted into the Liberty Seated Collectors Club's Hall of Fame
- 2020 LSCC John W. McCloskey Research Award
- 2021 LSCC President's Award for Publications Editor
- 2021 BCCS David Lawrence Literature Award
- 2021 BCCS Mike Hayes Award
- 2025 ANA Adna G. Wilde Jr. Award for Exemplary Service.

Bill is Past-Vice President of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club, founder and publisher (2005-2019) of the LSCC's monthly electronic newsletter (*The E-Gobrecht*), and editor and publisher (2014-2021) of the LSCC's printed publication (*The Gobrecht Journal*). He is a 50-year life-member of ANA and a member of LSCC, NLG, JRCS, BCCS, C4, and the Rittenhouse Society.

Professional Background

1973 BS in Physics, John Carroll University.

1992 MS in Electrical and Computer Engineering, George Mason University.

23 years service in the U.S. Army Signal Corps with assignments including 82nd Airborne Division, 1st Infantry Division, Intelligence Support Activity, and Army Space Program Office.

10 years with TASC, Inc (a Northrup Grumman Company) as a Program Manager for Information Systems Security and Department Manager for Reconnaissance Satellite Systems Engineering.

2 Years self-employed as a consultant in satellite systems engineering.

